Imported wheat stuck at various ports

1152. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it Is a fact that about 2.5 lakh tonnes of the total wheat imported by the State Trading Corporation (STC) is estimated to be stuck at various Indian ports;

(b) whether it is a fact that of the 55 lakh tonnes wheat contracted by STC, about 17.2 lakh tonnes has arrived at various ports of the country but Food Corporation of India (FCI) has so far received only 14.75 lakh tonnes of wheat; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to reduce the clogging of the ports?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) STC has contracted import of 55 lakh tonnes of wheat, out of which 53.83 lakh tonnes has already arrived. Total quantity discharged as on 6.3.2007 is 51.60 lakh tonnes, out of which 46.74 lakh tonnes has already moved and 4.86 lakh tonnes is lying in the ports. The quantity lying in Mundra Port in Gujarat is 3.62 lakh tonnes whereas the total quantity at other ports put together is 1.24 lakh tonnes. Government has taken adequate steps for speedy evacuation of the cargo. Inter-Ministerial meetings consisting of Department of Shipping, Department of Fertilizer, Department of Food and Railways were held to monitor the progress on arrival and evacuation of wehat and to ensure coordination amongst various agencies for speedy evacuation.

Fund allocation for urban development

1153. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B. J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to grant Rs. 50,000 crore for urban development in the next six years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;